

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1-6 and 8-14 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 8, 9, 11 and 13 being the independent claims. Claim 7 is sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. Claim 10 has been amended to correct claim dependency. It is believed that the amendments to the claims will place the application in condition for allowance or lessen the issues for appeal. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the notification that claims 1-6, 8, 9 and 11-14 are allowable.

Based on the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 7 and 10 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over BR 2001005486. Not in acquiescence of the propriety of the rejection, but solely to advance prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claim 7 and amended claim 10 to correct claim dependency. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

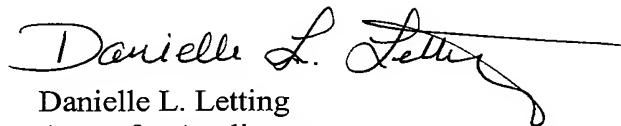
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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